GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3354
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
MODERNISATION OF POST OFFICES
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for modernisation and upgradation of Post Offices in the country by introducing new technology during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of post offices modernised during 1998-99 and also the number of post offices modernised so far during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(c) whether in tune with the emphasis on modernisation of hardware and working facilities for the staff the Government propose to made the rural delivery staff more mobile with the provisions of new bicycles, weather-proof Uniforms/Umbrellas and weather proof mail bags; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): The total financial outlay for the modernisation and upgradation of post offices in the country to the introduction of new technology during the 9th Five Year Plan is of the order of Rs. 133 crores. 102 post offices were modernised during the year 1998-99. The total number of post offices modernised during the 1st three years of the 9th Five Year Plan come to 506.

(c) As per existing orders bicycles, raincoats and umbrellas are supplied to the departmental staff working in rural areas and these are replaced within the prescribed time cycle. The jute unproofed canvas mail bags are provided which are semi weather proof bags. In addition nylon blue airmail bags are also provided which are fully weather proof. There is no proposal under consideration of the Department to replace the jute unproofed canvas mail bags. Uniforms to the staff are provided according to their entitlements which include umbrellas which are fully weather proof.

(d) Does not arise.